



Retirement

WHAT'S INSIDE:

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Looking for your retirement statement?

Did you know you can review your annual retirement statement directly on the Retirement Planner? You will need your employee number and PIN to safely log in, as the information you access is personalized and accessible only to you.

Your annual retirement statement can help you understand the value of your retirement benefits from the Church. You can also use it to help figure out how much you should be saving on your own so you can have the retirement you want. Print a copy or view it online anytime.

When do you want to retire?

Apparently **40%** of employees now expect to work until age 70. Are you one of them?

Find out when you'll be ready. Visit <https://www.tptools.ca/SDARetirementPlanner> to access the Retirement Planner — *it will do the math for you!*

First time on the Retirement Planner? Try a few different scenarios — different rate of savings, different investment strategy, different retirement age. The Retirement Planner will help you chart a course and keep on track.

DREAMING OF RETIREMENT? YOU NEED A PLAN!

Ever wonder how much money you'll need to do the things you look forward to in retirement?



Figuring it out is the first step to getting retirement-ready. The second? Making a plan so your dreams become your reality.

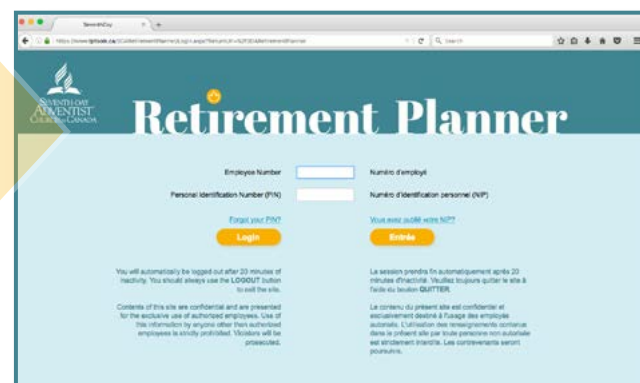
And the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada is here to help by providing you with a personalized retirement planning tool. The *Retirement Planner* is a powerful tool to help you map your way to a secure financial future.

This interactive tool projects your future retirement income from your Church pension and government benefits. You can also add in personal savings and other sources of income to complete the picture. You can model an unlimited number of scenarios using different assumptions to see estimates of your potential income and how it changes at various ages. Now that's helpful!

Use the Retirement Planner today to make sure your retirement plan is on track. If you have questions about the Retirement Planner or your Church pension, simply call the Retirement Department. If you need help with retirement planning, consult a trusted financial advisor. And remember to bring along your pension estimates from the Retirement Planner.

Visit the Retirement Planner today
<https://www.tptools.ca/SDARetirementPlanner>

Keep reading to learn more about getting retirement-ready!



WHAT'S YOUR NUMBER?

When it comes to your retirement, knowing how much you need to save is the first step to getting there. The old rule of thumb was you needed 60% to 80% of your pre-retirement income to maintain your standard of living in retirement.

But as our world — and our lifestyles — change, our thinking about saving for retirement is also evolving. And here's why — a single year of employment earnings isn't always a reliable representation of your actual living standards. There are many other factors to think about. For example, are you the sole supporter of your family? Do you own your home or are you renting? Are you a spender or a saver?

The latest thinking takes net income and our lifestyles into account because a change in personal circumstances, well, changes everything. Retirement experts today are encouraging you to look at when you'll have the resources you need for the retirement you want.

Today, more and more people are working past the traditional retirement age of 65 for a variety of reasons. Have you started to think about when you'll have enough to comfortably retire on?

Consider this...

Here are three things to think about when comparing your current spending to your expected spending in retirement:

- 1 What retirement lifestyle do you want to have?
- 2 How long do you expect to live?
- 3 What are your sources of retirement income?



Monitor, monitor, monitor!

How are your investments performing? Do you need to increase the amount you're saving? Review your investments at least once a year and make adjustments as necessary. Taking an active role will help you achieve your financial goals for retirement.

Is it all adding up?

If you're like many people, you might be saving enough, but you're not quite sure.

Take the guessing out of your financial planning and let the Retirement Planner crunch the numbers for you. After all, aren't you curious to see how you're doing?

Log on today at <https://www.tptools.ca/SDARetirementPlanner>.

ADDING IT UP

So, if the newest theory suggests you look at your current household income and your expected costs in retirement, what should your next steps be?

Start by:

- 1 **Determining your current household income (yours and your spouse's, if applicable) less the amount of money that your household will spend this year.**
 - Include all sources of income (considering Church wages/salary, investment income, etc.)
 - Less all costs (taxes, mortgage, debt repayment, retirement savings, household expenses, etc.)
- 2 **Estimating the amount you'll have available, as a household, in retirement.**
 - Include all expected sources of income like your Church pension (**TIP – you can find this on the Retirement Planner**), government benefits and personal savings
 - Less the amount you expect to spend in retirement (taxes, health care expenses, travel, home maintenance costs, etc.)
- 3 **Compare your numbers.**
 - If amounts 1 and 2 match or are almost the same, you're on track to maintaining your current standard of living in your retirement.
 - If your numbers are very far apart, you'll need to increase your savings or think about how you'll reduce your expenses in retirement.

It's best if you are able to create these estimates for a few years so you have an average that reflects a broader timeframe. Your retirement years can last up to a third of your life — or longer! *When will you be ready?*

ARE YOU THERE YET?

Where will your money come from?



The Church provides you with a pension plan that is part of the foundation for your personal retirement plan. Together with **government benefits** and your own **personal savings**, you can plan ahead to enjoy your retirement years.

Tax-savvy TFSAs

Your personal savings are an essential component of your retirement plan. Contributing to an RRSP is not the only way you can *tax shelter* your savings. A Tax-Free Savings Account (TFSA) is a great addition to your tax-savvy investment strategy.

What – a flexible registered savings vehicle that lets you earn tax-free investment income. You can contribute up to \$5,500 after-tax dollars each year and carry forward unused contribution amounts from previous years. You select your investment mix from a range of options (i.e. mutual funds, GICs and bonds).

Why – your money grows tax-free, and because contributions are made with after-tax dollars, withdrawals are tax-free (and can be made at any time with no penalty).

How – visit any major financial institution to open a TFSA and start securing your financial future today.



TELL US WHAT YOU THINK!

If you have any questions, comments or suggestions about this newsletter, please don't hesitate to contact the Retirement Department:

- Marilyn Pazitka, Director – 905-433-0011, ext. 2071 or pazitka.marilyn@adventist.ca
- Charisma Hodgins, Retirement Specialist – 905-433-0011, ext. 2070 or hodgins.charisma@adventist.ca

NEXT ISSUE

Be sure to let us know if there's a topic you'd like us to cover and we'll try our best to include your suggestions in future issues.